

Blogs and Wikis in the Classroom

Blogs and Wikis - What's the difference?

Blogs

- a weblog or journal
- can change daily
- engages students in discussions
- can include text, images and other multimedia files
- writers and editors can add to the site
- visitors can comment on postings
- creates a reverse order diary
- think of it as the transfer of information

Wikis

- collaborative
- evolves over time
- users can add, remove, edit and change content
- permissions can be given for each user
- revisions can be tracked
- allows commenting on content
- think of it as the storage of information

Blogs in Plain English

Let's check out a couple of blogs

mmcguire.edublogs.org

Mrs. McGuire's Blog - Windows Internet Explorer

http://mmcguire.edublogs.org/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Google Search More >>

Norton Norton Safe Search Search Cards & Logins

Favorites iGoogle (2) Field Management System weightwatchers.ca Official Facebook (4) EasyWeb Karl Stimpfig Theatres - Galaxy Cinema Merriam-Webster Online iGoogle

Blogs and Wikis in the Classroom Internet Explorer cannot display this page Mrs. McGuire's Blog

edublogs Log In Search

Mrs. McGuire's Blog

Calendars Cross-Country Running Team Scholastic Book Orders Websites to Visit

By Mrs. McGuire
11/01/11 at 22:54

11 Comments

Student Blogs

Ok folks! Most of you now have your own blogs created using your suggested username. For three of you, I was unable to create your blog because your name had already been used. Ashleigh, Ciara and Alyssa, could you please send me a new and unique username. Tristan, I can't read your sticky note. Could [...]

[Continue Reading...](#)

Category: [Uncategorized](#)

By Mrs. McGuire
13/12/10 at 06:39

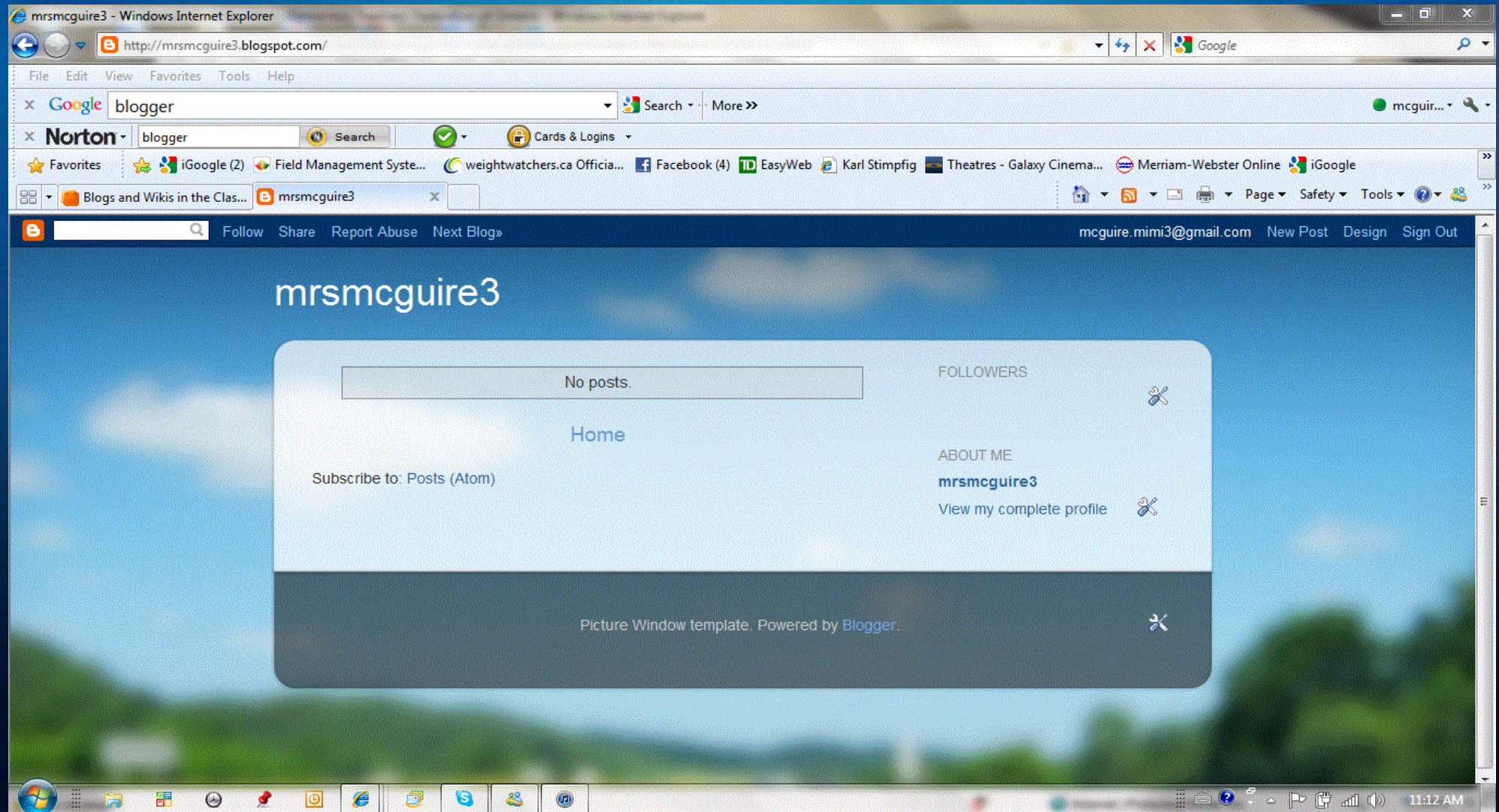
10 Comments

pages

- [Calendars](#)
- [Cross-Country Running Team](#)
- [Scholastic Book Orders](#)
- [Websites to Visit](#)

administration

mrrsmcguire3.blogspot.com



Blog Examples

Learning in Greece - journalling

<http://my-ecoach.com/blogs.php?blog=1451>

Biological Minds - conversations/collaborations

<http://itc.blogs.com/minds/>

Grade 5 Blog - book recommendations

<http://dundascentralgradefive.blogspot.com/>

Howls From the Wolves - sharing student work

<http://lpottsfay.edublogs.org/>

The Edublogger - offers great support to teachers and issues blogging challenges each year

<http://theedublogger.com/check-out-these-class-blogs/>

Create your own blog using Edublogs or Blogger

Edublogs

Go to edublogs.org.

Click on the free option and complete the registration form.

Follow the instructions to create your blog.

Blogger

Go to blogger.com

If you have a Google account, sign in. If you do not, click on Get Started.

You will create a Google account using any email address you would like.

Follow the instructions to create your blog.

What's in a name? Choosing a blog name.

- choose something that is easy to remember
- choose something appropriate to your audience (students, parents, other teachers)
- choose something that reflects you, your teaching style or classroom
- avoid using grade or room numbers, these may change

Share your blog name, so we can visit.

This is a shared document. That means you may add to it. Please type your blog name below. Post your first comment on your own blog, sharing how you will use this blog in your classroom. Visit one or two other people's blog and share some ideas with them regarding how a blog can be used in the classroom. Post a second comment on your own blog addressed to your students, welcoming them to the new blog site. Ask them a question and have them respond in the comments.

Blogs Created Today:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i8eZgFUjQfUh8DKKqm8NRZsTtsmvmm9MmgFnqc8mce8/edit?hl=en> US

Wikis in Plain English

Now, let's take a look at a couple of wikis.

mrrsmcguire3.wikispaces.com

Windows Internet Explorer window titled "mrrsmcguire3 - home". The address bar shows "http://mrrsmcguire3.wikispaces.com/". The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The toolbar contains a Google search bar, a Norton Safe Search bar, and a "Search" button. The Favorites bar lists several sites, including iGoogle (2), Field Management System, weightwatchers.ca Official, Facebook (4), EasyWeb, Karl Stimpfig, Theatres - Galaxy Cinema, Merriam-Webster Online, and iGoogle. The main content area displays the "mrrsmcguire3" wiki page. The page header includes "MrsMcGuire3", "My Wikis", "My Account", "Help", "Sign Out", and the "wikispaces" logo. The page navigation bar shows "home" (selected), "PAGE", "DISCUSSION (2)", "HISTORY", "NOTIFY ME", and "EDIT". The left sidebar contains links for "New Page", "Recent Changes", "Manage Wiki", a "Search" bar, "All Pages" (listing "home" and "Terrific Tool for Classroom Use"), and "Navigation Options" (listing "edit navigation"). The main content area contains the text: "This Home page is under construction. Please use menu to the left to navigate this wiki. Thank you for your patience and understanding." The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons, and the system clock displaying "1:19 PM".

mrrsmcguire3.pbworks.com

mrsmcguire3 [licensed for non-commercial use only] / FrontPage - Windows Internet Explorer

http://mrsmcguire3.pbworks.com/w/page/43645155/FrontPage

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Google Search More >>

Norton Safe Search Search Cards & Logins

Favorites iGoogle (2) Field Management Syste... weightwatchers.ca Officia... Facebook (4) EasyWeb Karl Stimpfig Theatres - Galaxy Cinema... Merriam-Webster Online iGoogle

Blogs and Wikis in the Clas... PB mrsmcguire3 [licensed ...

My PBworks Workspaces mrsmcguire3 Upgrade Now! Michele McGuire account log out help

Wiki Pages & Files Users Settings

VIEW EDIT

☆ FrontPage

last edited by PBworks 10 hours ago Page history

Welcome to PBworks

This is a real workspace! Please edit this page, create new pages, and invite others to use this workspace with you.

Get Great Ideas!

- Learn what makes a good collaboration project and see how other PBworks customers are using their workspaces. Check out our [PBworks educator community](#).

Need Help? We're here for you:

- [The PBworks Manual](#) can help show you how to edit, add videos and invite users.
- The best way to get your support questions answered is to **click the help link** at the top of this page. Our support gurus will get back to you asap.

Comments (0)

Add a comment

Create a page
Upload files
Invite more people

Share this page
Put this page in a folder
Add Tags
Control access to this page
Copy this page

Navigator

- ★ Starred Pages and Files
- Activity Tracking
- Assignments
- Blank Page
- Course
- FrontPage

Pages No Files options

Internet | Protected Mode: On 100%

Now, it's time for you to create your own wiki using either Wikispaces or PB Works - Have fun!

Wikispaces

Go to wikispaces.com.

Click on the free option and complete the registration form.

Follow the instructions to create your wiki. Look for free wikis for educators.

Manage wiki is where you can change your settings

PB Works

Go to pbworks.com.

Click on the free option and complete the registration form.

Follow the instructions to create your wiki.

Set up your wiki using the Settings tab.

What's in a name? Choosing a wiki name.

- same rules as choosing with a blog, can use same name as blog if available

Share your wiki name, so we can visit.

This is a shared document. That means you may add to it. Please type your wiki name below. Choose a curriculum topic you will be working on over the few weeks. Do a brief search of the web. Create a page with the information and add any multimedia files you would like. This week invite your students to join your wiki. Today, visit one or two other people's wiki and request to join their wiki.

Wikis Created Today:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i8eZgFUjQfUh8DKKqm8NRZsTtsmvmm9MmgFnqc8mce8/edit?hl=en> US

Let's recap our learning:

Please go to mmcguire.edublogs.org and respond to the post about this session. There are a few brief questions. Please add any questions you may have for me and I will try to answer everyone within the next couple of days. I am available through email, blog and wiki if you have any questions in the future. Don't hesitate to use these technologies right away in your classroom.

Use it or lose it!

Additional Resources

Learn Ontario - search by subject, find Wikispaces, PB Works and Blogger

<http://www.learnontario.ca/search>

My eCoach - Classroom Blogs and Wikis

<http://my-ecoach.com/online/webresourcelist.php?rlid=4992>

Will Richardson's Education Blog - he has stopped using this site but will leave the content up and you can follow him to Tumblr

<http://weblogg-ed.com/>

<http://willrichardson.com/> (Tumblr page)

International Society for Technology in Education

<http://www.iste.org/welcome.aspx>